ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of flow control management of data packets in a switch. The method has the steps of determining each time data is being written to memory in order to calculate a memory used amount; determining each time data is being freed from memory in order to calculate a memory freed amount; and calculating how much total memory is being used using the memory freed amount and the memory used amount. A comparison is made comparing the total memory being used to a first predetermined threshold. When the first predetermined threshold is reached a first threshold command is issued indicating that the first predetermined threshold has been reached.